Higher Education among Women

4250. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission propose to grant under Special Assistance programme a full fledged women's college at Chail in Allahabad to given status to higher education among women living in the backward rural areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) if so, the funds proposed to be allotted for this purpose in the Eighth Plan;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken by the government to provide equal educational opportunities to women residing in rural areas so that they become beneficiaries of the development process?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The UGC does not provide grants for establishing new Colleges. Colleges are generally set up by State Government Universities/Private Trusts/ Local Bodies keeping in view the educational requirements of the area and availability of financial resources.

(b) and (c). do not arise.

(d) According to information furnished by the UGC, the Commission has relaxed the criteria for providing assistance for general development in the Eighth Plan for eligible Women's Colleges as follows:-

— The minimum students enrollment has been relaxed to 150 for women's Colleges as against 250 for all other colleges.

— The minimum number of teachers need be only 5 for women's colleges as against the minimum 10 for other colleges.

— For construction of women's hostel the Commission will provide 100% assistance as against 75% for boys hostels.

Open Heart Surgery Facilities

4251. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the hospitals having facilities for open heart surgery: state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): As per the information available, there are 43 hospitals/institutions in the country having the facilities for open heart surgery. A statement showing state-wise distribution of such hospitals/institutions is enclosed.